

Firemen Fix Food

Husband material for the gal who hates to cook can be found at the local firehouse. Every fireman also is a cook. Unfortunately, though, few Torrance firemen are still single. A few months ago nearly half were unattached, but they are now tied up in matrimony. Could be their cooking ability had something to do with it?

Captain Gene Walker of B Platoon disproves this theory, however. "To my knowledge," he said, "our married firemen don't do the cooking at home on their days off—or if they did they wouldn't admit it!"

The three-month stint each takes at the stove apparently is enough for them. Some of the men's first meals aren't too good, but they have worked out an ideal way to take care of complaints which Mrs. Torrance might try out on her family. The one who makes the complaint has to finish out the cook's term.

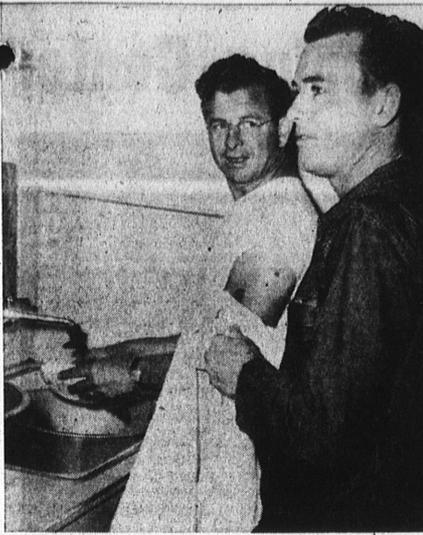
"We get surprisingly few complaints," Captain Walker said. There are two shifts of men, A and B platoons, who work alternating 24-hour periods. Each man puts in \$8 every two weeks for the noon meal and the 5 o'clock dinner.

Dishwashing is done by the "follow-up" man (the guy who takes care of routine jobs at the station).

Proverbial male favorite, the bean pot, doesn't simmer on the firehouse stove. "We try to have a balanced diet," Captain Walker said, citing as example a typical dinner of steak, corn, mashed potatoes, salad, milk, coffee, and pie.

The kitchen is light and airy, and equipped with modern refrigerator and stove—all the comforts of home save one—a peaceful, uninterrupted meal.

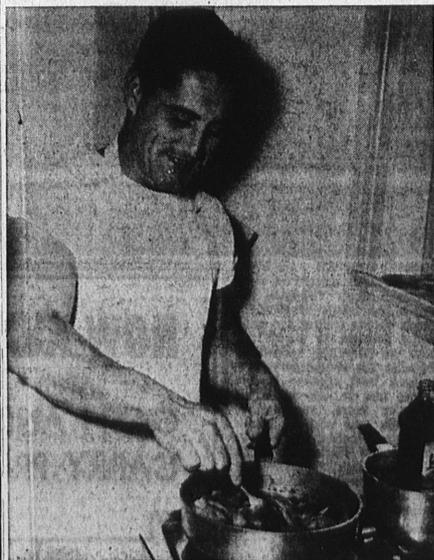
"We never sit through a meal without a call of some sort," said Captain Walker, "and these are frequently fire calls."



CLEAN-UP TIME . . . "Dishpan hands" Sam Dial gets ready to pass a plate to his dryer for the evening, Jerry Holloman.



CHOW DOWN . . . Local firemen of A Platoon stow away waffles, eggs, sausage, ham, milk, and coffee prepared by Bill Russell. Left to right are R. E. Moffitt, Don A. Davis, Russell, Sam Dial, Jerry Holloman, Frank Tuttle and Joe Warren. Captain Gorcan Northington, Leonard Christian and Ed Polston are off for the day. Captain Gene Walker, Bob Lucas, Harlan Whitacre, Virgil Newman, Glenn Price, Ray Flagg, George Blahnick, Gerald Loy, Charlie Robertson, Ralph Collins and Donald Lamb make up B Platoon. The two groups of men work alternate 24-hour shifts. Fire chief is J. J. Beamer (For what really happened as the men sat down to eat, see photo on page 2).



COOK FOR THE EVENING . . . Bill Russell "stands over a hot stove" putting finishing touches on firemen's Tuesday dinner.

'I LIKE MY JOB,' SAYS SECRETARY TO CITY MANAGER

"There are new problems every five minutes," Mrs. Ladene Chamberlain said this week of her job as secretary to City Manager George Stevens.

Mrs. Chamberlain has had the job of helping her boss meet some of those problems for the last four years. "As a city official, he has to be aware of everything that goes on, whether big or little, and it is a pleasure," she said, "to see him handle a problem. He always has time to hear the other side."

"SMOOTHS THE WAY" And no wonder, with Mrs. Chamberlain always on hand to smooth the way for the busy executive.

This brown-eyed woman with the spring golded curls, has a charm and an ease of manner which stand her in good stead as the city manager's receptionist.

She radiates an efficiency which is indispensable in her manifold task of keeping "the boss" records, handling his correspondence, meeting people at the counter, taking Planning Commission, Recreation Commission and (when the regular secretary is gone) City Council minutes, and answering myriad question phoned in by city residents.

WHERE'S CABRILLO? Most frequently asked questions, she said, are those dealing with the locations of the many new streets in Torrance.

In addition she relays calls for the building and engineering departments of city government. Recognition of her top-notch ability executing these duties came at the last council meeting, held on July 8, when she

was named an administrative secretary. "LIKES JOB" Mrs. Chamberlain has a keen interest in her job. She likes it because "there is always something going on" and because she has a chance to "meet the public."

It is these things which weigh the balance in favor of administrative work as opposed to her former position, held 18 years, as secretary to the superintendent at Rubbercraft.

This was her first job when she graduated from Long Beach Secretarial School, which she attended after graduating from Torrance High School in 1928.

ARIZONA HOME "We came to California from Arizona," she said, "like everyone else, I guess—just to come to the coast."

Mrs. Chamberlain's mother, Mrs. Maybel Banks, lives next door to her at 1330 1/2 Engracia Ave. Her husband was in the depot business in Arizona, and she is following in his footsteps as manager of the Torrance Bus Depot in Los Angeles.

Bus business also occupies Marshall Chamberlain, the husband of the charming secretary. He is superintendent of the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines.

The couple met in the City Hall; "this office was right next to mine," Mrs. Chamberlain said.

GOLF FAY As he is a golf enthusiast, Mrs. Chamberlain plans to take up golf. "I love to walk," she said, "and I think I could learn to hit the ball."

Formerly the secretary's most popular sport was badminton. Like many another working gal, however, keeping house takes up most of her free time.



WOMAN BEHIND THE BOSS . . . Mrs. Ladene Chamberlain sits in typical pose with typewriter in position and telephone in hand. These are the objects she uses most in her job as secretary to City Manager George Stevens. (Herald Photo)

Tonight at 6 OES Fetes Birthday

Birthday anniversary of Torrance Chapter No. 380, Order of the Eastern Star will be feted tonight at a 6 o'clock dinner. Worthy Matron Althea Smith announced.

Chairman of the affair is Edna Babcock, past matron, who will be assisted by 1952 officers and hostesses.

Members Courtesy Night will be observed at a Chapter Room meeting following the dinner.

Guests having birthdays in April, May, June, and July will be honored in the Banquet Hall after the meeting, with Marion Moss acting as chairman.

H. MITCHELS ARE HOSTS Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Mitchell opened their home, 1317 Acacia Ave. last weekend to friends from Alhambra, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Cushing and son, Gary, and Bill Symington. During their stay they spent a day with their hosts at Redondo Beach.

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THE Gay SHOP

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Baptist Mission Group Views Play Production

"A Heritage with a Future," presented by three chapters of the World Wide Guild climaxed the monthly meeting of the Women's Mission Society, First Baptist church, held Thursday. Sally Pack Chapter, Ann Judson Jr. Chapter, and France Tong Chapter joined in presenting the play.

Mrs. Tom Garrison contributed vocal solos to the program, which followed a pot luck luncheon served by Dorcas Circle at noon.

Seventy-five women attended the meeting.

B'NAI B'RITH STYLE SHOW IS 'ALL SET'

Final fashion show plans were made Friday by South Bay B'nai B'rith Women at a meeting held in the home of Mrs. S. Raphaelson, 14933 Wadkins Ave., Gardena.

The affair, to include both women's and children's clothes, is slated for 8 p.m. Aug. 13 at the Torrance Woman's Clubhouse. Mrs. Ida Rosenfield, president, said. Reservations may be made by contacting Mrs. Helen Yeskin at Torrance 2230 R.

The Social World

AGNES BOLTER, Editor

Lomita Court of Amaranth Makes July Activity Plans

Auxiliary meeting of Lomita Court No. 61, Court of Amaranth, will be held this afternoon at the home of Armintha Kaighin, 24662 Cypress St.

Second in a series of monthly card parties is slated for Saturday night at 8 o'clock at the home of Estella Des Jardins, 2116 West 25th St. All types of card games, with prizes for the winners of each, will be played. At the end of the series there will be a grand prize for the highest cumulative score.

Donation of 50 cents is asked from all those attending the Saturday event.

Initiation of new members will be held next Thursday, July 24. Grand Lecturer Dora Hoppe will pay her official visit to Lomita Court for the ceremony.

Courtesy Night was held by the group Thursday night at the Masonic Temple, Torrance. Courtesy officers filled all stations for opening and closing, while Royal Matron Helen Wilson and Royal Patron Frank Schmidt presided over the Court's business.

Dora Hoppe, grand lecturer; Josephine Stephenson, assistant grand lecturer; and Ada Perkins, grand representative to Oklahoma received grand honors. Many Past Royal Matrons and Patrons present also received honors.

In addition to visiting Courtesy Officers, many visitors from Los Angeles, Redondo

HARRY WITTEBELS ENTERTAIN GUEST

"Guest in the house" of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wittnebel, 4286 182nd St., is Mrs. David Rowe, sister of Mrs. Wittnebel.

Mrs. Rowe returned with the Wittnebels when they completed a vacation at her home in Winnemucca, Nev., last weekend. She plans an indefinite stay in Torrance.

Highlights of the July holiday, which was a 16th wedding anniversary celebration for the Wittnebels, were a visit to Convict Lake and trout fishing in the high Sierras.

Mary Cowan Weds C. Clark

Surprise wedding rites at Las Vegas July 5 joined Mary Peckham Cowan and Calvin Clark of Los Angeles. None of the family had known that a wedding was planned.

The newly married couple are at home now, 1518 Post Ave., following a honeymoon in the June Lake region.

Parents of the bride are Mr. and Mrs. George Peckham of Torrance. Her brother is Bob Peckham, also of Torrance.

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